



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/572,898	12/21/2006	Gert Anders	2003P12785WOUS	2978
22116 7590 04/23/2010 SIEMENS CORPORATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 170 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH ISELIN, NJ 08830				
EXAMINER JIANG, CHARLES C				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2472				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/23/2010		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 15, 18-21, and 24-28 have been considered but are moot. Because the Applicant introduced new claim limitations that were not previously presented, specifically, "a service access unit operative as one element of the automation system and connected to the field bus", which changed the scope of the claims and thus necessitates further considerations and a new search. Although the limitations "field bus" and "a service access unit" has been previously presented, a service access unit that is connected to a field bus has not been previously presented.
2. It is also not clear whether this newly added limitation would overcome the prior arts. The term "connected to" does not mean "directly connected to without anything else in between". So as long as there is a connection between the service access unit and the field bus, that would be sufficient to anticipate the claim. Because Daffner shows on Figure 1 that there is a connection between its service access unit (Element 7) and the field bus (Element 5), it can still anticipate the newly added limitation and hence the new limitation would not make the claims allowable.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHARLES C. JIANG whose telephone number is (571)270-7191. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Trost can be reached on 517-272-7872. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William Trost/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2472

/C. C. J./
Examiner, Art Unit 2472